Naval Museum *in* Vizag

1074. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set *up* a Naval Museum in Vizag;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount sanctioned therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Improvement of Facilities at Tourist Resorts

1075. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHAN RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that poor facilities at tourist resorts are becoming a major hurdle for the growth of tourism industry; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to improve infrastructure facilities at all the tourist places?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Growth of tourism in the country depends on several factors. Foreign tourist traffic to India has increased from 2.29 million in 1996 *to* 2.48 million in 1999 and foreign exchange earnings have also increased from Rs. 9920 crores in 1996 to Rs. ^13042 crores in 1999.

(b) Improvement of infrastructure facilities at tourist places is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations. Department of Tourism, however, provides financial assistance to State Government/UT Administrations for tourism projects